

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 8, please amend paragraph [00031] at lines 10 and 14 as follows:

[00031] As best seen in Figure 4, Figure 1 and Figure 2 a housing (20) is provided which includes an opening (~~23~~ 20a) wherein the cartridge (15) will be inserted in use. An alignment (29) is provided in the housing typically made from brass to align with the alignment tab (49) of the stationary sleeve (40) to ensure that all ports of the cartridge are in alignment with the outlets (21 through 25) of the housing. At the bottom of the opening (~~23~~ 20a) there is found channels (26 and 27) in order to accommodate the seal (S4 and S5) of Figure 4B. The seal (S5) circumscribes the inlet opening (28) extending from the inlet (20B) of the valve housing. In this manner water from a typical hot and cold water supply valve may enter the multiport valve and be diverted in a manner which will be described hereinafter as can be seen in part in relation to Figure 4A by the rotation of the rotary stem sleeve (50) which will be described hereinafter.

At page 8-9, please amend paragraph [00032] at line 24, 10 and 15 as follows:

[00032] As seen in Figure 3 when the alignment tab (49) of the cartridge is contained within the channel (29) and the housing (20) all of the seals (S2) of the stationary sleeve (20) will be aligned with their respective outlet port. The seals (S2) are designed to extend in part into the outlet ports (21 through 25) by the slight ~~chambering~~ chamfering of these outlets so that the seal may be compressed and provide a very positive seal indeed within each of the outlets (21 through 25). The cartridge (15) will therefore be positioned within the housing (20) and retained in position by the threaded retaining member (30) which as best seen in Figure 1A through 1E as a perimeter adjacent the bottom thereof including a threading (30A) which will mate with the threading provided in the housing (20) and (20A) so that the cartridge (15) will be retained in the housing (20) by the very positive location of retaining member (30) in the housing via the threading thereof. The retainer includes an opening (33) at the other end thereof to receive the spindle (51) of the rotary sleeve (50). The portion (32) in the form of a threaded cylinder about the exterior thereof as best seen in Figure 1B will provide for fastening of trim portions to the

valve assembly. The nut portion (31) can be used to tighten the retainer (30) ~~and~~ in position. The retainer is rigidified by various ~~rim~~ rib portions (30B) which reduced the weight of the retainer while strengthening said retainer. In this manner all of the stop portions and retaining elements provided in United States Patent No. 6,196,266 have been eliminated and the entire multiport valve assembly improvements have been radically simplified by providing the cartridge assembly and the elimination of unnecessary sealing portions and ~~blind~~ related elements.

At page 10, please amend paragraph [00034] at line 26 as follows:

[00034] Referring now to Figures 6 through 6D there is illustrated a top portion (41) of the stationary sleeve (40) which includes ports (A, B, C, D and E) which align with the facilities shown in Figure 3 when tab (49) is installed within the housing engaging cut out (29). Stops (44A) are provided from the bottom of the top portion (41) to receive ball bearing (B) as spring biased to spring (E) to ensure the positive stop location for each of the facilities of Figure 3 within the limits of travel of the rotary stem sleeve (50) within the stationary sleeve (40). Various pin locations (G1) provided so as to allow for the engagement of the top (41) and the bottom portion (42) of the stationary sleeve (40). This can be best seen in relation to Figure 6D. A mating (10) portions can be readily seen in relation to Figure 7, wherein the ports A, B, C and D will be perfectly aligned by the pin portions (J1) and fastening appendages (J2) in alignment with various ports (~~J1~~ G1 and ~~J2~~ G2) of the top portion (41). The bottom portion (42) of Figure 7 includes a ledge (42A) and an opening (42B) wherein a stationary ceramic disk (45) may be positioned, the geometry of which can be best seen in relation to Figures 9 and 9A. The ceramic disk therefore is retained in position within opening (42B) and held in position at ledges (42A) via the corresponding portions (45A) at the perimeter of the ceramic disk as seen in Figure 9. The ceramic disk also includes an inlet port (45B) extending there through which will be closed by their rotating ceramic disk (59) carried by the rotary stem sleeve (50) which can be seen in Figure 10 in relation to Figure 2B. When the two portions (41 and 42) are therefore assembled, it is important that the ceramic disk be positioned in portion (42) prior to assembly and prior to any ultrasonic welding which will complete the cartridge. Of course, the stem sleeve (50) must

also be contained within the components (41 and 42) prior to ultrasonic welding or the like. All components must be installed. Once the cartridge is totally assembled, it may be placed within the housing (20) as described above by orienting the tab portions (29) with tab portion (49). The cartridge will therefore be correctly positioned without the necessity of having to provide all of the stops and related portions taught in United States Patent No. 6,196,266. In the closed position therefore, the valve will be as seen in Figure 2B.

At page 12, please amend paragraph [00036] at line 4 as follows:

[00036] The entire inlet is therefore properly sealed ~~approximate~~ the opening (28) via the seals located within the channels (26 and 27, S4 and S5) to prevent water from passing around the ceramic disk to any of the outlet ports but only enter through inlet (28) into the valve cartridge to be diverted to the desired facility as described previously.